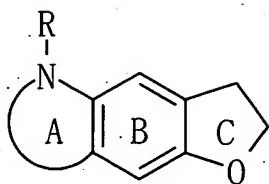


1. (Original) A compound represented by the formula:



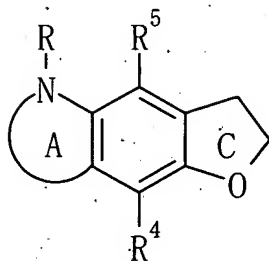
wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring B is benzene ring which is further substituted, Ring C is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and R is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by an unsubstituted or substituted ~~optionally substituted~~ hydrocarbon group.
3. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by an unsubstituted or substituted ~~optionally substituted~~ lower alkyl group.

4. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

5. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

6. (Previously Amended) The compound according to Claim 1 which is represented by the formula:

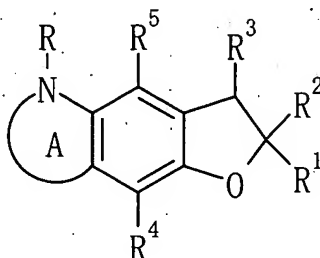


wherein R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are the same or different and each denotes hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, hydroxy group, amino group or a hydrocarbon group which may be bonded directly or via oxygen atom, nitrogen atom or sulfur atom and which may be substituted, and the other symbols are as defined in Claim 1, provided that both R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are not hydrogen atoms at the same time, or a salt thereof.

7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6, wherein R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are the same or different and each denotes a lower alkyl group or a lower alkoxy group.

8. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6, wherein each of  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is a lower alkyl group.

9. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 1 which is represented by the formula:



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each denotes hydrogen atom, an **optionally unesterified**, esterified, **unamidated** or amidated carboxyl group or an **optionally unsubstituted or** substituted hydrocarbon group,  $R^3$  is hydrogen atom, an **optionally unsubstituted or** substituted hydrocarbon group or an **optionally unsubstituted or** substituted amino group, and the other symbols are as defined in Claim 5, or a salt thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 9, wherein  $R^1$  is a lower alkyl group,  $R^2$  is a lower alkyl group which may be substituted by a halogen atom, hydroxy group or an **optionally unsubstituted or** substituted cyclic amino group and  $R^3$  is hydrogen atom or an **optionally unsubstituted or** substituted phenyl group.

11. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 9,

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a lower alkyl group, R<sup>2</sup> is a lower alkyl group which may be substituted by a halogen atom, hydroxy group or an ~~optionally~~ **unsubstituted or** substituted cyclic amino group, R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen atom or an ~~optionally~~ **unsubstituted or** substituted phenyl group, each of R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is a lower alkyl group, and Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

12. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 9, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a lower alkyl group, R<sup>2</sup> is a lower alkyl group which may be substituted by a halogen atom, hydroxy group or ~~optionally~~ **unsubstituted or** substituted cyclic amino group, R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen atom or an ~~optionally~~ **unsubstituted or** substituted phenyl group, each of R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is a lower alkyl group, and Ring A is a non-aromatic 5-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted by a lower alkyl group.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound according to Claim 1~~  
~~which is 8-tert~~ **8-Tert**-butyl-3,5,6,7-tetrahydro-2,2,4,6,6-pentamethyl-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

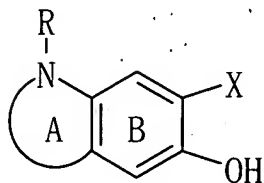
14. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound according to Claim 1~~  
~~which is 3,5,6,7-tetrahydro~~ **3,5,6,7-Tetrahydro**-2,4,8-trimethyl-2-[(4-phenylpiperidino)methyl]-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound according to Claim 1 which is 3,5,6,7-tetrahydro~~ 3,5,6,7-Tetrahydro-2,4,6,6,8-pentamethyl-2-[(4-phenylpiperidino)methyl]-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound according to Claim 1 which is 3,5,6,7-tetrahydro~~ 3,5,6,7-Tetrahydro-2,2,4,8-tetramethyl-3-(4-methylphenyl)-2H-furo[2,3-f]indole or a salt thereof.

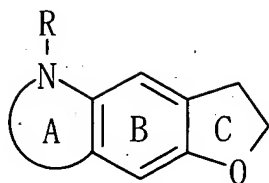
17. (Original) A prodrug of the compound according to Claim 1.

18. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing the compound according to Claim 1 or a salt thereof which comprises subjecting a substituent X and hydroxy group on Ring B of a compound represented by the formula:



wherein X is an ~~optionally~~ unsubstituted or substituted allyl group, and the other symbols are as defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof to a ring-closure reaction.

19. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring A is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing

heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted,

Ring B is benzene ring which is further substituted,

Ring C is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and

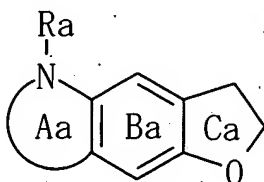
R is hydrogen atom or an acyl group,

or a salt thereof or a prodrug thereof;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 20-24 (Cancelled)

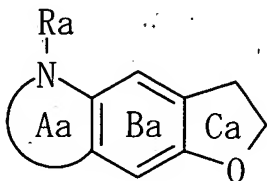
25. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing or treating a cerebrovascular impairment, ~~a cranial trauma or a neurodegenerative disease~~ which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a

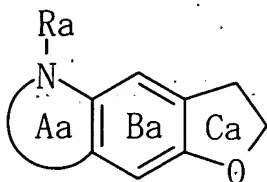
salt thereof or a prodrug thereof to a mammal.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~preventing or~~ treating a dysuria or a urinary incontinence which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof or a prodrug thereof to a mammal.

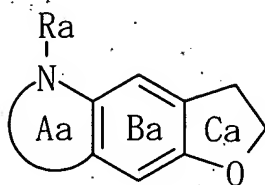
27. (Original) A method for preventing or treating a restenosis after a percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a

salt thereof or a prodrug thereof to a mammal.

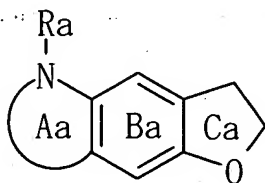
28. (Original) A method for inhibiting lipid peroxidation which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof or a prodrug thereof to a mammal.

Claims 29-32 (Cancelled)

33. (New) A method for treating cranial trauma which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:

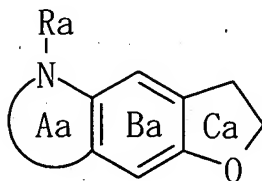


wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which is further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be



further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof or a prodrug thereof to a mammal.

34. (New) A method for treating a neurodegenerative disease which comprises administering a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Ring Aa is a non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be further substituted, Ring Ba is benzene ring which is further substituted, Ring Ca is a dihydrofuran ring which may be further substituted and Ra is hydrogen atom or an acyl group, or a salt thereof or a prodrug thereof to a mammal.